

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from the Area East of Letzling Heath

50X1-HUM

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

23 October 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 1

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 8 and 9 October 1953, [redacted] sizeable Soviet troop units south of Jerichow. Jeep [redacted] and trucks [redacted]

were seen. At 5:30 p.m. on 8 October, five T 34/85 tanks [redacted]

[redacted] JSU-122 assault guns [redacted] two trucks and one command car were entrained in Jerichow.

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2. On 9 October, [redacted] from Magdeburg to Perchland via Burg [redacted] no troops nor indications of troop movements. North of Klietznick, [redacted] on both sides of the highway to Jerichow at least 50 dug-in trucks, 12 x 57-mm AT guns and bivouacs. Artillery fire was heard from the northeast. Four amphibious cars and sedan [redacted] were seen in Jerichow. A large 50X1-HUM convoy of trucks [redacted] and six AT guns were seen proceeding to the north. No Soviet troops were observed along the Elbe River between 50X1-HUM Jerichow and Tangermuende. In Tangermuende, [redacted] a truck and a 50X1-HUM sedan [redacted] occupied by high-ranking officers and mounting a white-red 50X1-HUM flag. The road leading toward the west was blocked at the road junction 2 km south of Boehlsdorf. There were field telephone lines between Weissewarthe and Tangerhuetten. Sedan [redacted] occupied by officers, was seen in Tangerhuetten; a guard with a red flag was observed in the center of the town. Telephone lines were seen on both sides of the road between Kobbel and Uelz. Tank trails but 50X1-HUM no troops were seen in the wooded area. [redacted] no troop movements on return from Bertingen to Haldensleben via Rogatz, Zielitz, and Wolmirstedt. [redacted] Soviet troops entrained at railroad stations in the Stendal area between 26 September and 3 October. On 9 October, 20 tanks were entrained in Stendal.

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Comment. The presence, after 3 October, in the Jerichow area and west of it, of component units of the Third Shock Army, possibly units of the LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps, indicates that the large fall maneuvers of the army were followed by minor exercises.

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